

MATWATCH

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VOL. 4, NO. 28

8-PAGE BASH EDITION

JULY 15-21

Lex Leaves With Race & Hughes

BASH CROWD WANTS FLAIR AS LUGER WINS WCW TITLE

BALTIMORE----Aided by a distraction from Curtis Hughes and a late cageside appearance by former seven-time NWA world champion Harley Race, Lex Luger used a piledriver to defeat Barry Windham in 13:24 to win the WCW world heavyweight championship in the main event of THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH pay-per-view special in the Baltimore Arena Sunday night.

A pall was cast over the entire card in the wake of World Championship Wrestling's release of seven-time world champion Ric Flair less than two weeks before the show. Ringsiders loudly chanted, "We want Flair," before and during various stages of the Luger-Windham match and in the first crowd pan shot of the telecast, a fan held up a sign reading "WHERE'S FLAIR?" Early on in the show, announcers Jim Ross and Tony Schiavone told viewers WCW had made an offer during the week in an effort to regain Flair (reportedly in the \$700,000-750,000 annual range) and Schiavone said, "Flair has rejected it." The former champion is said to have returned Sunday from a five-day trip to the Cayman Islands but his whereabouts were being kept secret.

The controversy overshadowed by far the top match of the night, ending in an unexplained (to viewers) heel turn by Luger. An early Windham dropkick was countered by a Luger cradle and a slam. A Luger suplex at 5:19 was followed by a missed figure-4 try by Windham. The two traded sleeper holds at 7:15 and 7:50 and Lex scored with a DDT for a 2 1/2 count at 8:12. Luger took the Flair bump from the top but Barry's near-fall was followed by a missed elbow from the top.

Lex rushed Barry with three clotheslines for a 2 3/4 at 9:30, then went for the torture rack at 10:06. Windham kicked off the cage and rallied for a belly-to-belly suplex at 10:30. Luger's missed suplex was followed by a Windham lariat from the top for a 2-count. Barry scored with a dropkick from the top for a 2 5/6 count at 12:36.

At this point, Race and Hughes strolled down the runway. As Windham went to talk to Hughes, Race shouted to Luger on the opposite

Missy "Kidnaped"

STEINER WINS HANDICAP BOUT

BALTIMORE----Shortly after Dick Slater and Dick Murdoch hauled off Missy Hyatt, on her way to a mixed cage tag match, Rick Steiner made quick work of Arn Anderson and Paul E. Dangerously in the finale of THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH.

Rick powerslammed Arn early but Paul E. ambushed him from the top rope. Arn went for a bearhug but Rick escaped and KO'd Anderson with a Steinerline, then went after Paul E. with a slam and Steinerline for the fall in 3:10.

MATCH RATING: RESTHOLD...too anticlimactic after the world title match and people who paid to see Missy get her licks in were ripped off.

side, "Now's the time!" Luger applied the piledriver to Windham for the fall and world title at 13:24. After holding the belt to the crowd, he trudged down the ramp with Race and Hughes in tow. Ross and Schiavone said the Luger situation will be explained on next weekend's TV shows.

MATCH RATING: POWER-SLAM-PLUS...their 1989 bout at CHI-TOWN RUMBLE was better but if this was, as Schiavone proclaimed, "a statement for the '90s" by WCW, I don't understand why this was not the finale of the -

Photo Finish

NIKITA NIPS STING IN CAGE CLASH

BALTIMORE---Until February, Sting had never been on the losing side of a WCW pay-per-view match. Try three straight times now.

In what was not your classic Russian chain match, Nikita Koloff touched a fourth turnbuckle seconds ahead of Sting to win their faceoff in 10:54 at THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH.

At the 8:33 mark of the match, Koloff placed Sting in a bearhug but Sting continued to rotate out. The two rolled along the ropes and touched three turnbuckles each. Despite some long breaks between touches, referee Randy Anderson continued to rule each man had three touches.

Nikita raked Sting in the eyes and caught him with a Russian sickle. The two struggled toward the fourth corner. As Koloff was about to go for the final turnbuckle, Sting caught Nikita with a knee but the momentum pushed Koloff's hand onto the turnbuckle inches ahead of Sting's to give the match to Koloff in 10:54.

MATCH RATING: DRAW...but Boris Malenko could teach both of these guys something about chain matches. Far too many low blows for my blood in this one. However, perhaps the best camera shot of the night was the slo-mo replay showing Nikita touching the turnbuckle just ahead of Sting.

(More BASH coverage on Page 2.)

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BASH BOARD

(SCAFFOLD MATCH) BOBBY

EATON/P.N. NEWS D. TERRENCE TAYLOR/STEVE AUSTIN (6:30): If you at home could figure out when and why this match ended, you're a better observer than I. And either a bad audio snafu occurred or even the announcers were fooled because Ross and Schiavone had not named a winner when Gary Cappetta announced the finish. At the 5:00 mark, all four were brawling. Austin crawled down the ladder and Jeannie Clarke handed him a can of spray which he misted in the faces of Eaton & P.N. But apparently, Eaton's capturing of a flag in the heels' corner was enough to win, so no one was deposited off the scaffold, except for Taylor's post-match mini-fall. RESTHOLD....other than excellent camera work, a good post-match brawl.

DIAMOND STUD D. TOM ZENK (7:00): They did try to go into the crowd early as Zenk was tossed into the first row but the pace slowed in the middle. Hall went for the abdominal stretch at 3:20 but Zenk rallied for a savate kick & goes outside to rail Scott. But at 6:25, Dallas Page slapped Zenk from the apron. Tom savate-kicked him but Stud belly-to-back suplexed him from behind for the win. RESTHOLD-PLUS...at least he won with a wrestling hold.

RON SIMMONS D. OZ (6:54): Ron really tried but Kevin Nash is just too green and too slow. The finish came when Simmons escaped a bearhug, dropkicked Oz, football tackled him twice and decked the Wizard (Kevin Sullivan) before shoulderblocking Oz for the pin. BOMB-PLUS.

RICHARD MORTON D. ROBERT GIBSON (17:25): A rather grueling affair with not as much of the speed of old Rock & Roll matches. The storyline had Morton working over Gibson's recovering knee. Robert tried a DDT at 14:44 but couldn't cover and later missed a dropkick. The two brawled to the runway but both missed dropkicks. As Alexandra York distracted the ref, Ricky grabbed the computer & bashed Robert for the win. DRAW-PLUS.

(ELIMINATION MATCH) YOUNG PISTOLS/DUSTIN RHODES D. FREE-BIRDS/BRADSTREET (16:03): 1. A double DDT eliminated Steve Armstrong at 12:56. 2. Michael Hayes threw Armstrong out over the top for a DQ elimination at 13:00. 3. Tracy Smothers double DDT'd to go out at 14:15. 4. Dustin lariats Jimmy Garvin out at 14:20. 5. Dustin bulldogs Bradstreet and kicks Humperdink out for the win. DRAW-PLUS.

YELLOW DOG D. JOHNNY B. BADD (DQ/6:02): Pillman opened by looking right into the camera and saying, "Johnny don't be bad. Johnny be gay." And in the first 15 seconds, Ross referred to the Dog as Flyin' Brian. Dog scored a suplex and spinkick and was about to go for Air Dog Pillman when Teddy Long ran in and tried to unmask Brian, causing the DQ. BOMB-PLUS....I felt bad for Brian in this one.

(LUMBERJACK MATCH) BIG JOSH D. BLACKBLOOD (6:39): More action outside with the 'jacks than inside. Little crowd heat except when the 'jacks brawled. The finish came as Haynes was about to go for his axe and clobber Matt with it, Dustin (Our Hero) Rhodes bashed Blackblood in the knee with Josh's axhandle and Josh covered him for the pin. BOMB-PLUS.

EL GIGANTE D. ONE-MAN GANG (6:08): Another hard one to watch. At least El can suplex now but he comes nowhere close to the aura of invincibility a young Andre used to show. Gang

worked on El's leg with a wrench tossed by Kevin Sullivan. He then tried a 747 at 3:30 but El kicked him out of the ring on one. OMG did the Flair bump from the top at 4:00 and El followed with a suplex. Sullivan climbed to the top and El made Kevin crotch himself, then cracked the heels' heads together. El clawed Kevin but as the Gang went for a package of Goody's headache powder, El kicked it in Gang's face and pinned him. BOMB.

BASH BITES

I've always loved the NWA. But this isn't the NWA. It's WCW. I'd love to say this was a good show but it wasn't. When Turner

first took over this company, the pay-per-views were spectacular and would leave you with a "feel good" emotion. True, the Flair situation overshadowed the evening and the chants of "We Want Flair" by the crowd at least three times during the main event were embarrassing for WCW. But even the one George Scott-booked pay-per-view was superior to this BASH and when the last three matches end in a Sting loss, fan confusion over whether Luger is a heel (and Kimberly Murphy said on THE LARRY KATZ SHOW Sunday night many fans were puzzled and angry) and not delivering Missy Hyatt in the finale except to be kidnapped were classic Rhodes-style booking touches. Great way to bring 'em back, right?...I'm no big Missy Hyatt fan but when you promise her to be in the match, DELIVER!!!!...The Scaffold Cam was a good touch and not overused through the show and at least Ross and Schiavone did not refer to some of these mid-show matches as "great" when they were anything but....I still can't get over the confusion over the scaffold finish. That seemed to set things off on a bad start...As a whole, this looked like a pre-Turner Rhodes/Crockett production. Few graphics. Few touches Ross has often used like the baseball card-style details on the wrestlers and some awfully long, long periods Ross and Schiavone had to fill early on without visuals to go to....DREADED GLITCH: Spelling Barry Windham's last name WINDAM....POOR TASTE AND SEXIST AWARD: Eric Bischoff going into Missy's shower....Bischoff wasn't bad and certainly more animated than Gordon Solie but he was a bit too hyper in a few segments....I did like the camera-as-fan entering the arena opening but I did not like not having the announcers set up the show before going to the first match. That was just like the '88 BASH...Why couldn't they have used clips from the '89 Luger-Windham CHI-TOWN RUMBLE match during some of the long fills? Or clips of their split in '88? It would have been a great builder...WCW confiscated many of the pro-Flair signs but, as you saw, they didn't get them all.

BEST LINES: 1. Yellow Dog: "Johnny don't be bad. Johnny be gay." 2. Ross, on scaffold: "It would take one of the Flying Wallendas to referee this match. 3. Schiavone, on scaffold: "It's no place to get vertigo." 4. Jimmy Garvin/Ross, on Dink clotheslining Smothers: (JG) "We're sorry." (JR) "That's about as heartfelt as Jim Bakker."

VERBAL UNMASK AWARD - Ross, on Yellow Dog: "Flyin' Brian starts out with a little slap."

MATWATCH 25 SCALE

ANNOUNCING	4.3
CROWD ENTHUSIASM	2.8
TOTAL PRODUCTION	3.2
QUALITY OF MATCHES	2.0
OVERALL EXCELLENCE OF SHOW	2.2
TOTAL RATING	14.5

**THE FLAIR MESS: A MOST
DIFFICULT COLUMN TO WRITE**

"There is an overwhelming feeling here that somehow we have lost our way. Nobody seems to know just how or why, but everybody feels that something's wrong."

---James Reston, 1959

It is a story most of us knew one day would have to be told but somehow, not in this fashion. After a two-week break, the story of Ric Flair's firing/demise/departure, however you wish to distinguish it, from World Championship Wrestling has been written and rewritten in my mind at least forty times.

To the traditionalist, of the shrinking fraternity which holds high the torch of the letters NWA, a Flairless WCW represents an emotional passage much as in the death of a family member:

first, disbelief; then, shock; then, grief; then, a period of juxtaposition between depression and begrudging acceptance that life, while not the same, must go on. Most are somewhere between the first and second stage. As one caller to Jim Ross' radio show July 7 said: "I hate to be like these people who say Elvis is not dead but I keep hoping I'm going to wake up and find out this is all a bad dream."

To those who discovered a redefined pro wrestling circa 1984, christened Vince McMahon & Friends, yet know enough about "that other group" to have regularly heard of "that Ric Flair fella," this may not be the equivalent of Hiroshima but one can smell the enemy camp being encircled.

As for those of us in the camp of extraordinary admiration and respect but far short of canonization of the seven-time world champion, who continue to be puzzled at the evolutionary state (or is that dissolution?) of the Ted Turner-owned company, objectivity is as hazardous a mission as is toxic waste.

In the last two weeks, most letter-writers, many bulletin columns and an abundance of callers to wrestling radio talk-fests are screaming for the hide of WCW boss Jim Herd like rowdy Dodge City townsfolk on an old episode of GUNSMOKE. But the problems amplified by the Flair debacle are far more complex than to lay them at the foot of any one person. And that is not an unqualified defense of Herd.

In November 1988, Turner Broadcasting System bought majority interest in a wrestling company for which its owner had filed for bankruptcy. Without that purchase, the NWA as we then knew it, would have died, then and there. Some are now suggesting maybe that would have been best, sparing NWA devotees what has been frequent agony in the last three years.

Return with us now to that tense first month of TBS' ownership. The booker was one Virgil Runnels, who had concocted a scenario for Flair to lose his belt to a rising-but-not-ready Rick Steiner. Flair departed a meeting ready to bolt for Titan Sports. Runnels insisted, according to some present, "Let him go," even citing the 5.4 rating a recent TBS CLASH had delivered without Flair. It took the coaxing of veteran TBS executive Jack Petrik to cool Flair and return him to the fold.

The TBS brass knew their new company was not big enough for both Runnels and Flair but Runnels made their choice easy. His now-infamous "spike-in-the-eye" angle with Road Warrior



Hawk in the old TBS studio was an arrogant defiance of Super Station standards and Runnels, rejecting a TBS offer to remain in the NWA by turning heel, was fired as booker, left for Florida and, six months later, the WWF.

Was Flair an angel in all of this? He negotiated and received creative control over the destiny of the NWA title, which---from this corner---was as dangerous a move as the almost unlimited power Runnels had acquired as booker from 1983-88. Blame TBS for giving that much power to Flair. But Flair's desire for autonomy over the belt snacks of "me-ism" over the best overall interests of the group in the worst way. Flair was largely responsible for luring Ricky Steamboat back to his NWA roots by agreeing to relinquish the world title to the Steamer. But 76 days after giving up the belt, the strap was back around Flair's waist. People close to Steamboat say he's still perplexed at the relatively short-term reign.

A volume can detail mistakes made with the 1989 Flair babyface turn. Some, we did write in the 1990 MATWATCH ANNUAL. And the errors were on both sides. After the masterful job Terry Funk did in turning Flair to a favorite, two key blunders were made. One, Turner Home Entertainment should have been ready with a BEST OF RIC FLAIR videotape and Flair book it had promised were in development from the date of taking over the NWA. A broad marketing campaign for Flair should have been launched the week he made his return at the 1989 GREAT AMERICAN BASH. And remember, the company gambled by keeping Flair out for 11 weeks. On the other hand, while it's considered a sacrilege to secondguess Flair, Ric made what I feel was a serious error. For turns to be solidly effective, one's character has to change---as Flair's did when he turned face in the early '80s in the Carolinas. The 1989 babyface Flair was the same old "60-minute man...to be The Man, you've gotta beat The Man" Flair we had seen for four years. The only thing which changed were his opponents. Flair's work was impeccable. But his character had become a cliché.

I still contend a double mistake was made when Herd called Flair's bluff of leaving for Titan after the '89 BASH and made him booker. Alex Marvez of THE MIAMI HERALD once told me I was too harsh on Flair's booking regime. If you compare the Flair term to the two succeeding ones, Alex is right. But from the TBS side, I still question the wisdom of giving an active wrestler, much less the world champion, control over a national promotion's creative destiny. From Flair's standpoint, I still question some of his talent decisions and until Ole Anderson came along and returned us to the Neanderthal Era, WCW looked like RIC'S GOLDEN OLDIES. However, I now concede the highest ratings for weekend TBS series of the Turner years were posted during the Flair regime (abetted by the TV formats of Jim Cornette and Jim Ross) and compared to today, arena crowds were double to triple.

Ric wisely gave up the booking post when he recognized the pressure to be performer/producer was simply too great. As old friend Charlie Platt told me after a friendly reunion with Flair in Dothan AL, "Ric looked tired and it had aged him."

Much can be written about the deterioration of Flair as star since his surrendering of the world belt to Sting one

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STEVE BEVERLY

(Continued from Page 3)

year ago. Again, between Anderson's reducing Flair to a "one of the boys" status and Runnels' return to revert Ric to a role as "the champion who never wins," the promotion botched his drawing power. But Flair also shares in this, too. Perhaps the most telling comment on the situation came last February from no less than Terry Funk: "Flair may well be the greatest performer in the history of this game. But it's time now for him to move away from being the Nature Boy to the Living Legend. He's past 40 and his character has to evolve." But be honest: has Flair done an original interview in the last six years? No. The same "walk that aisle...whether you like it or don't like it, learn to love it" every time out. Only the most blind Flair devotees fail to see it.

Several questions to sum up:

WHO IS AT FAULT HERE?: Both parties. The relationship between Flair and TBS has been rocky, at best, particularly since a 1989 perception survey on TBS personalities, such as stars of the daily sitcom reruns, showed Ric (after his face turn) to be regarded in a highly negative fashion. Flair's resisting change and TBS' failure to develop a proper marketing scheme for him are both black marks.

WAS WCW RIGHT TO ASK FLAIR TO TAKE A PAY CUT FOR HIS CONTRACT EXTENSION?: Based squarely on current arena crowds and TV ratings, yes. This is, after all, a business. And the entire TBS corporation is still feeling the pinch of the recession. But it appears to me those declines are more a result of a year of disastrous booking by Anderson and the confusing circus Runnels is now producing. And if the BASH pay-per-view is indicative, don't make any wagers on the figures rising.

IF WCW MADE A \$700,000-750,000 OFFER LAST WEEK TO FLAIR, SHOULD HE RETURN?: Based on money alone, yes. He will never make that much in a year with Vince McMahon even with a series with Hulk Hogan. But based on the fact that his old nemesis, Runnels, is at the creative helm, money will not eliminate the old problems. The two don't squarely don't mesh and WCW has given Rhodes a two-year contract (though that could always be paid off if he doesn't produce). Flair can no longer work in that environment.

WILL THIS BE THE FINAL BLOW FOR WCW? It is for the NWA but not for WCW. As long as Ted Turner and the TBS board view WCW as a viable property, it will survive. What's viable? TV ratings, pay-per-view subscriptions and arena

attendance. We'll be able to judge in two to three months if the Flair departure results in serious ratings repercussions. While other favorites remain, Flair was the anchor for old NWA loyalists and whether they stay loyal to WCW now is in question. As for the PPV figures, I think we'll have to wait until HALLOWEEN HAVOC to see the impact. I don't think the BASH will be an adequate barometer. Finally, as for the arenas, my honest view is if Rhodes cannot get crowds up by the end of the BASH tour and I'll be very surprised if a dramatic rise occurs, Turner has to face the realistic prospect of getting out of the nightly arena business. It's just too costly.

WHAT ABOUT JIM HERD?: Herd has made his mistakes but for everyone yelling for his hide, remember this: if you're going to replace someone, you better have someone better in mind to take the helm. Jim Crockett is said to be dying for another shot and this is the guy who bankrupted his own company, along with the current booker. TBS isn't going to pony up the bucks for Bill Watts, who probably wouldn't want the job now. Do you bring in someone from the TBS executive pool? That person may know less about wrestling than Herd, who had been on the TV side of the ring before WCW. And there is no public evidence Herd is in trouble with TBS, despite all rumors.

There is, however, something wrong in Dixie. I'll be sternly criticized by a WCW insider who proclaimed a year ago I was unprofessional and recently claimed to have lost all respect for one of my colleagues. But what the Flair situation brings into focus is the only thing consistent about the three years of TBS as a wrestling company owner is inconsistency. And it is time Ted Turner himself and WCW president Jack Petrik comb the company from top to bottom and find out the problems and stop the hemorrhaging. The world and WCW will go on without Ric Flair. But if Sunday night in Baltimore is any indication, so will a myriad of self-inflicted woes. Your witness.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

On the other hand, there's the matter of one of the new kids on the block, the Global Wrestling Federation. Its first week on television was a quiet entry, a good but not great start.

Most of the talent is young, combined with a scattering of veterans capable of teaching the youth. Some writers have termed the early Global TV tournament matches on ESPN as "lackluster" but certainly bouts with Stan Lane and Buddy Landell were competitive and The Patriot (Del Wilkes) shows promise as a rising star.

Perhaps the strongest element of the first week on ESPN was the mike combo of Craig Johnson and Scott Hudson. Their enthusiasm was first-rate and their preparation showed with strong, Jim Ross-like background information on all of the wrestlers. Johnson's years as a mainline sports broadcaster shine and Hudson's overall knowledge of wrestling adds refreshing analysis. Where both guys have to be careful is in overuse of the term "great" in characterizing matches, which simply aren't. I wish that word would die from the vocabulary of all sportscasters. Scott twice called a Chris Walker match as "great." Let's reserve that for Flair-Steamboat and Steiners in Japan classics.

What are Global's chances? That's like predicting if Saddam Hussein will try for a two-out-of-three-fall war. If Joe Pedicino builds slowly, remains a TV promotion and doesn't get led into trying to run expensive and suicidal arena shows, he has a chance to carve out a small, respectable niche for the fan who is still looking for wrestling, with a sprinkling of showmanship. A number of fans calling into Larry Katz's Baltimore talkfest Sunday night labeled Global "not bad" and MATWATCHer Dick Bourne called it "refreshing not to have to hear constant pitches for 900 numbers and pay-per-views, though that may change after a while." Ultimately, the viewers will decide.

Joe learned the pitfalls of producing four hours of TV in a week in his first outing. The syndicated effort last week featured a fan asking why Norman became Makham Singh before the segment of Norman explaining his identity change had aired.

My biggest concern about Global: Joe's health. The responsibilities of supervising or contributing to three promotions are great and Pedicino needs to make good on his promise to delegate to his associates. If the early going is any indication, discipline will be the rule in the GWF. Read pages 7 and 8 and see what Hector Guererro and Landell discovered.

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VIDIOTS

July 8-14

(GLOBAL/ESPN) - [Mon./TV TOURNEY]: Billy Black d. Brian Adias; Randy Rhodes d. Sweet Daddy Falcone; Patriot d. Stan Lane; Bill Irwin d. Fantasma; (From MLW) Norman tells Joe Pedicino he's Makham Singh; (NEWS CENTER) Craig Johnson/Scott Hudson on tourney format; (ANGLE) Lane scolds Cornette for causing his loss. DRAW.

[Tue./TV TOURNEY]: Terry Garvin d. Zebra Kid; Singh d. Pvt. Terry Daniels; (NEWS CENTER) Craig/Scott on tourney finals; Chris Walker d. Doug Sommers; (SEG) Singh/Rip Rogers refer to "The Cartel"; Rogers d. Hitman. RESTHOLD.

[Wed./TV TOURNEY]: Adrian Street d. Axl Rotten on reversal when ref finds Axl w. object; Rasta the Voodoomon d. Jeff Gaylord; Nick Busich d. Jimmy James; Landell d. Gary Young w. feet on ropes; (VIEWER COMMENT) Freddie Fargo says Singh will "rule Global"; (NEWS CENTER) Craig & Scott tell how over-the-top rope not a DQ in Global. DRAW-PLUS.

(GLOBAL/SYN) - [MAJOR LEAGUE]: Walker d. Falcone; Rotten d. Chaz; Lane d. Ray Evans; Adias/Young d. Sommers/Kenny the Stinger; Patriot d. Tugboat Taylor; (ANGLE) Norman reverts to Makham Singh; Street d. Rogers by DQ when Singh runs in. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(WWF/USA) - [PRIME TIME/GUEST HOST: Gorilla Monsoon]: Randy Savage proposes to Elizabeth; (GUEST) Hillbilly Jim dedicates song to Randy & Liz; Greg Valentine d. Demolition Smash; (UPDATE) "Match Made in Hell"; Koko B. Ware d. Mike Stone; Bret Hart d. Barbarian; Ricky Steamboat d. Ed Moretti; Sgt. Slaughter/Col. Mustafa d. Bushwhackers; (SKIT) Sean Mooney taken by blindfold to "Slaughter Command Center" and forced to read statement that Ultimate Warrior will turn on Hulk Hogan at SUMMER SLAM; (SEG) Dream sequences of a Savage-Liz marriage from views of Heenan/Monsoon/Jamieson; (VIDEO) The Skinner (Steve Keirn); (GUEST) Savage tells Heenan if he has to take out the trash, he'll take Bobby with it; Beverly Brothers d. David Bazo/Scott Key; Other winner: Ted DiBiase. DRAW-PLUS.

(UWF) - [BEACH BRAWL]: Boris Zhukov d. Paul Samson; (STREET FIGHT) Terry Gordy double countout vs. Johnny Ace; Bob Backlund d. Ivan Koloff. RESTHOLD.

(AAWF) - [2 Wks. Ago]: Tim Sledge d. Punisher; (6-MAN) Dave Michaels/Dr. Love/Kareem Muhammad no contest vs. Ga. Renegade/Mercenary/Moondog Spot. BOMB.
[Last Week]: {AAWF TITLE} Michael J. Starbuck d. Big O by DQ. O retains belt when Renegade runs in; (CHAIN MATCH) Jimmy Powell d. Ronald P. Gossett IV but Moondog Spot runs in after & chairs and bones Powell, who juices. BOMB-PLUS.

(UIW) - Steve Valentino d. Beachboy Vinnie Young; Warpig d. Rikki Lane; Dixie Devastation d. Lords of Darkness w. illegal man but Lords win post-match brawl; Harley Watkins d. Black Ranger; Rasta the Voodoomon d. Rick Starr; The Surgeon d. Reggie Royce; (MONSTER MINUTE) Mr. Bojangles; Neal Superior d. Morgas the Maniac by countout. RESTHOLD.

(IWF) - Mondo Kleen d. Dave Johnson; (SEG) Mondo sits on King Kong's shoulder at Universal Studios; Chubby McCool d. Dennis Allen; Thunder & Lighting double DQ vs. Heartbreakers & brawl to pull apart; Bad Boys d. Randy Rhodes/Caribbean Kid; (SEG) Repo Man repossesses Blues Brothers' car & tows it away; Lou Perez d. Cliff Anderson by DQ for over top; (SEG) Terminator announces world tour; Terminator d. Mike Dibacco. DRAW-PLUS.

(SUNCOAST PRO) -
[7/6]: Rico Frederico d. Black Panther; Chris Proctor d. Giant Outlaw (during match Penelope Paradise ejected); (REPLAY) Allison Royal d. Paradise by DQ

when Penelope DDTs ref Frankie Reyes.

[7/13]: {SUNCOAST FLA. TITLE} Full Force d. Charlie Seals; (ANGLE) Paradise confronts Frankie Reyes for reinstatement. Reyes agrees if he can pick her next opponent & ref; Gator Gilmore vs. Tom Sawyer in progress as show ends. NO RATING.

(WWF/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]: Rockers d. Louie Spiccoli/Scott Catlin; Slaughter d. Bazo; Jake Roberts d. Key; Undertaker d. Gorman; Beverly Brothers d. Bob Allen/Jerry Stevens; Bret Hart d. Randy Patterson; (SUMMER SLAM REPORT/all shows) Hennig-Hart I-C title match, Virgil-DiBiase match announced. RESTHOLD.
[SUPERSTARS]: Davey Boy Smith d. Moretti; (UPDATE) Replay of Randy's proposal, "Match Made in Hell" hype; Typhoon/Earthquake d. Koko/Bob Oxley; I.R. Schyster d. Jeff Burnside; Curt Hennig d. Larry Ludden; Other winner: DiBiase; (FUNERAL PARLOR) Paul Bearer w. Legion of Doom. RESTHOLD.

(LPWA) - Bad, Black & Beautiful d. Sweet Ga. Brown/Alma Alvarez; Bambi d. Candi Divine; Reggie Bennett d. LaGata; Medusa Miceli d. Cheryl Russa; Nasty Girls d. Beast/Malaya Hosaka; Misty Blue Simmes/Allison Royal draw vs. Queen's Court; (LOUISVILLE SLUGGER) Jim Cornette w. B, B & B. DRAW.

(PRO WRESTLING '91) - Brute Force d. Ken Chuck/Steve Young; [LPWA] Terri Power d. Heidi Lee Morgan; [CLASSIC/WWC] Missing Link d. Stan Hansen by DQ; Curtis Thompson d. Mr. USA; [JAPAN] Tatsumi Fujinami d. Jay York; Steve Lawler/Busich d. John Michaels/Festus. RESTHOLD.

(AWA: LOOKING BACK) - [1983] Buck Zumhofe d. Mike Graham; [1984] Jerry Blackwell/Abdullah the Butcher d. Blackjack Lanza/Blackjack Mulligan; [1982] Otto Wanz d. Nick Bockwinkel.

RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(IWCCW) - [REPLAY/IWCCW TITLE] Tony Atlas d. Vic Steamboat to regain belt. NO RATING.

(WCW/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Big Josh d. Tim Frye; (REPLAY/WCW TV TITLE) Steve Austin d. Bobby Eaton for belt w. help from Jeannie; Austin d. Ian Weston; Nikita Koloff d. Johnny Meadows; Barry Windham d. Terry Booth; (REPLAY) Jim Herd vacates world belt; (VIDEO) Luger-Windham feature; Lex Luger d. Tony Mello; Terrence Taylor/Richard Morton d. Tommy Angel/Johnny Rich; Hardliners d. Rob Morgan/Scotty Williams. RESTHOLD.
[WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP]: Johnny B. Badd d. Rich; Koloff d. Chad Floyd; (CONTROL CENTER) Paul E. reviews BASH card; (DANGER ZONE) Paul E. w. Herd's statement & Luger guests; El Gigante d. Keith Steinborn; (6-MAN) Eaton/Ron Simmons/Yellow Dog d. Larry Zbyszko/Arn Anderson/Austin. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[MAIN EVENT]: (6-MAN) Taylor/Morton/Curtis Hughes d. Larry Santo/Jim Boss/Greg Sawyer; Diamond Stud d. Williams; (DANGER ZONE) Paul E. w. One-Man Gang/Kevin Sullivan; Josh/Tom Zenk d. Mark Kyle/Frye; (WCW TV TITLE) P.N. News d. Austin by DQ when Jeannie rakes P.N.N.'s eyes. Austin keeps belt; Hardliners d. Pat Rose/Eddie Desmond. BOMB-PLUS.

(WCW/SYN) - [WCW PRO]: {REPLAY} Stud/Dallas Page attack Zenk; Zenk d. Rip Rogers; (WCW TV TITLE) Austin d. Floyd; Badd d.

SCALE: FINALL -
Must See. PILEDRIIVER -
Excellent. POWERSLAM -
Good. DRAW - Average.
RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB -
Poor. PLUS - Midscale.

MATWATCH

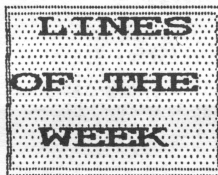
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Jackie Fulton; Gang d. Terry Bronson & Gang/Sullivan attack Josh as he tries save. El chases heels; Hardliners d. Joey Maggs/Ricky Nelson; (LARRY'S LEGENDS) Nikita on Sting-Koloff saga; (ELIMINATION TAG MATCH) Freebirds vs. Young Pistols: 1. Steve pins Garvin. 2. Steve DQ for throwing Hayes over-top. 3. Michael pins Tracy when Bradstreet DDTs Smothers as Dink distracts ref. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

[WORLD WIDE]: P.N.W. d. John Peterson; Austin d. Keno MacKenzie; (REPLAY) El-Gang feud; Hughes d. Scott Allen but Robert Gibson & Dustin Rhodes brawl with entire York crowd after; Hardliners d. Sonny Trout/Chris Sullivan; (VIDEO) Patriots; (REPLAY/CLASH XV) Hardliners run-in on Steiners. RESTHOLD.

(USWA/WMC) - [REPLAY] Last week's 5 studio brawls w. chairs; (ANGLE) Eric Embry decks ref Paul Neighbors (Heyman Sr.) & cuts his hair until Eddie Marlin drags Eric off by hair. Eric goads Marlin/Neighbors into 1-on-2 match at PIPKIN BLDG. with hair vs. hair. If Eric loses, he's fired; Jeff Jarrett/Robert Fuller d. Scorpions; (SEG) PWI writer Bob Smith gives Jerry Lawler 1974 picture; (ANGLE) Leatherface comes out & chainsaws pic & announcers' desk. Chain breaks & 10-man brawl erupts; Tom Prichard/Embry d. Rob Zakowski/Danny Davis when Eric hits Rob w. flag; Bill Dundee/Tony Anthony d. Judge Dread/Sabu; (PIPKIN/MUD MATCH) Kim Anthony d. Miss TX when Tony tosses out Prichard & Anthonys dump Miss TX in mud. RESTHOLD.



1. Buddy Landell, GLOBAL, to female fan: "If I want any snot out of you, I'll squeeze (your husband's) head." 2. Jim Cornette, GLOBAL: "I bet they (Dallas fans) wish these matches would run longer so they wouldn't have to get under the underpass with cardboard boxes." 3. Scott Hudson, GLOBAL: "Jim

Cornette's got the body of a pear and the brain of a pineapple." 4. Hudson, GLOBAL, on Craig Johnson's Spanish: "People think we've turned into Galavision. This is like Hooked On Phonics gone bad." 5. Jim Ross, JIM ROSS SHOW: "I hope we get wrestlers in here and get back to the basic wrestling style I grew up with." 6. Ross, JRS, on Paul E./Arn vs. Missey/Steiner: "It'll be unique...50 per cent of the people in the match can't wrestle a lick." 7. Bobby Heenan, PTW, on Randy Savage wedding: "He might as well hang himself. It's the same thing." 8. Liz Poffo, PTW, on Randy: "One thing some people may not believe about him. He's very tender." 9. Heenan, PTW: "So the Macho Man's tender? So's a double-beef whopper." 10. Johnson, UIW: "I don't think the Hippocratic Oath has anything to do with the way The Surgeon operates."

11. Lou Perez, IWF, after Marx Bros. clown with him: "You know they were just looking for another brother." 12. Johnson/Hudson, GLOBAL, on Rip Rogers: (SH) "Mr. Southern Kentucky? I heard it was a contest between Rip and Denny Crum." (CJ) "No, that was a one-on-one tournament after the game." 13. Ross, JRS, on why departing wrestlers are not mentioned again: "If they're gone, the companies feel like they're forgotten and you just let 'em go their own way." 14. Ross, PH, on stripping Flair of belt: "It's probably not the most popular move in some circles." 15. Hudson, GLOBAL, on Makham Singh: "This is the plastic surgeon's dream come true." 16. Johnson/Hudson, GLOBAL: (SH) "He takes no quarter and he gives no quarter. Bill Irwin probably doesn't have a quarter to give." (CJ) "And just what can a quarter get you today?" 17. Hudson, GLOBAL: "Makham Singh. Sounds like something you

do in church." 18. Hudson, GLOBAL, on Randy Rhodes: "He resembles the lead singer for Guts & Rose." 19. Jamieson, PTW, on Randy/Liz: "They're gonna be happy...like June & Ward." 20. Savage, WWF, on Ed Moretti: "Find out what exercises he does for his stomach. I want to do it for my arms."

21. Johnson, GLOBAL: "Randy Rhodes...with a body like that, I don't believe he'd get too many calls if he had a 900 Hotline of his own." 22. Savage, PTW: "Food for thought? You're talking about a 7-course dinner and I'm talking about a Macho buffet." 23. Singh, GLOBAL-MLW: "You take all 100 Teddy bears and they'd add up to more than the IQ of all of these people." 24. Joe Pedicino, GLOBAL: "The USWA has been Globalized." 25. Dave McCallister, UIW: "Harley Watkins is built like a Harley-Davidson: big behind, big torso." 26. Hawk, WWF-SU: "Paul, you really slay me." 27. Ross, WCW, on El Gigante: "He gives new meaning to Floyd the Barber." 28. Paul E., "It's Illegal Alien Week in honor of El Gigante."

OFF-BROADCAST LINE - Cornette, on WCW: "They couldn't draw with Al Capone's rematch vs. Eliot Ness in Chicago on Valentine's Day."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Caller, JRS: "It's kinda embarrassing for Ric Flair to be pushed this close to a pay-per-view if his contract was in this much trouble, if that's all there is." 2. Ross, JRS: "Ric Flair's lawyers had as much to do with this as anyone else. If Ric Flair had been negotiating with just one or two people from WCW, I believe this thing could have been worked out. I'm not very high on attorneys." 3. Harold Johnson, WSOC-TV: "Once and for all, it's time for a full-scale boycott of TBS wrestling." 4. Ross, PH: "If the time comes this company ever violates my First Amendment rights, maybe it's time to seek employment elsewhere." 5. Krusher Kowalski, SAT. NIGHT AT RINGSIDE, on indies: "You're not seeing steroid freaks there."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. Savage, PTW: "Elizabeth, will you marry me?" 2. Caller, JRS: "Do any of the WCW wrestlers have a homosexual lover or partner?" 3. Darrell (caller), JRS: "Why don't Sting and Luger---being involved with young people as they are---speak up about steroids?" 4. Heenan, PTW, to Savage: "What if she (Liz) gets a better offer?" 5. Big Bully Busich, GLOBAL: "Who is Mario? What is this...a Nintendo commercial?" 6. Hawk, WWF-SU: "What's the name of that cologne you have on, Paul? Formaldehyde?" 7. Roddy Piper, WWF-SU, on I.R.S.: "Why's he picking on me? You've got a yacht, Vincent. I've got a jetski."

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. GRANDFATHER FLAIR (Landell on Ric Flair). 2. THE GREAT ONE (Singh on himself). 3. GERM WARFARE (Heenan on Jamieson). 4. WRESTLING HEE HAW (Heenan on Hillbilly Jim). 5. CADAVER EYES (Hawk on Paul Bearer). 6. THE WORLD'S TALLEST LIGHTHOUSE (Paul E. on El Gigante).

HYPE AWARD - Hudson, GLOBAL: "The GWF TV championship is so prestigious, you might get hotel discounts with it."

BEST PICTURES - 1. PTW, Savage proposal to Liz. 2. GLOBAL, Cornette bashing Patriot with racket. 3. PTW, Slaughter's gang manhandling Sean Mooney. 4. GLOBAL, Cornette/Lane argue on stage. 5. IWF, Lou Perez-Marx Bros. skit. 6. GLOBAL, Fantasma over-top splash onto Irwin. 7. GLOBAL, Singh slamming Daniels on floor. 8. GLOBAL, Landell copying Flair's feet-on-ropes. 9. PTW, Sherri taunting Mike McGuirk.

ENGLISH LESSON - Tony, FAN'S CORNER, GLOBAL: "Why DO he use it,?" on Nick Busich's heart punch.

COMPREHENSIVE, YOU SAY?: Titan Sports issued a terse press release Friday announcing it would launch "the most comprehensive steroid testing program in professional sports." It did not mention how this would work or when it will begin. Titan v.p. Basil DeVito said the testing had no connection with the recent George Zahorian trial. Okay.

BLASTING CAPS: The same day, THE NEW YORK POST and THE NEW YORK TIMES issued scathing editorials blasting the WWF on its steroid history. THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH offered a similarly well-researched piece in its Sunday edition.

VINCENT K. RESPONDS: McMahon did offer a response in the TIMES' "Backtalk" segment Sunday. No new revelations and hints at bad reporting but predominantly a defense of his and his family's history in the wrestling industry and disputing claims he is an influencer of steroid or drug abuse.

BUT WHO CARES?: WWF has canceled Atlanta Omni show July 21 because it would have had to pull Hulk Hogan from the card. Hogan gets a plaque from President Bush that day as honorary president of the 1991 Special Olympics.

FLAIRLESS SELLOUT: WCW taped last Monday night before the biggest Columbus GA crowd in 10 years---a legit sellout of 4,778, though tickets were \$3 for kids under 12.

THE BLITZ: Columbus columnist Richard Hyatt said local arena officials told him it was the best promotional job WCW has done since Ted Turner has owned it. WCW ran contests on three top local radio stations, and good had newspaper and WTVM ads.

THEY KNEW: My column in THE COLUMBUS LEDGER-ENQUIRER on the Flair mess ran the Friday before the taping, so the fans knew. L-E writer Sandra Okamoto's big profile on Johnny B. Badd (Mark Merro) may explain, in part, the big pop he drew.

NEW ALLIANCE: Arn Anderson and Larry Zbyszko teamed as The Enforcers in Columbus. Larry fired some good lines and their workrate was strong. But they challenged the Freebirds for the U.S. tag belts, so one wonders if a switch to face is coming for one of the teams.

NO LEX: The only no-show in Columbus was Luger and I'm told he was pulled from the card because both tapings were for after the BASH. But it doesn't take a fool to figure it out when they had two U.S. title tournament matches on the bill.

HOLD THE PHONE: WCW's Doug Dellinger told some locals the Atlanta office has been "bombarded" with pro-Flair calls.

WERE YOU GRINNING, JIM?: One footnote on the July 7 JIM ROSS SHOW on WSB. When the caller asked if any WCW wrestlers had any gay lovers, it was the closest I've ever heard Rossie to being speechless. It was all he could do to keep from guffawing but he worked his way out of it as a class act.

ONE OTHER NOTE: Ross had an open-phone night and I take my hat off for the professionalism with which he handled tough and angry questions on Flair's farewell. Most callers took WCW to task and Jim candidly blamed both parties for the mess.

MORE BAD NEWS: Ross also reported Dr. Jim Andrews' diagno-

sis on Scott Steiner: Scott may have to stay out as long as January now with the recovering bicep. Which means the WCW world tag belts will have to be forfeited. Not sure on IWGP.

TWO IN A ROW: WCW also sold out Tallahassee Tuesday with some cut prices. If you care, the Desperados (except Black Bart) are gone. They were only guaranteed 60 dates at \$300 a shot. Pez Whatley was also dumped as one of the Patriots.

TAGGING IN: Jim Brunzell set for the Global tag tourney. Pedicino and Eadie still hunting a partner for Stan Lane.

FIRED BEFORE HIRED: Hector Guererro was dumped from GWF's light heavy tourney. Hector balked about doing a semifinal TV job, so Bill Eadie bade Guererro goodbye.

THE STRANGER: That will be the romantic role of Global's Fabian. He'll bring roses to ladies at ringside and wear a Lucha Libre-style mask. And he's been told under penalty of annihilation not to foul up the gimmick.

NEW SPORTATORIUM LIGHTS: New lighting grid for the Sportorium (Globaldome) won't be ready until the ESPN shows you see in mid-August. But it should refine the look of the shows.

SUNCOAST TAPING: Henry Raines' next SUNCOAST PRO taping is Saturday night at the Manatee (FL) Civic Center. On top: Nasty Ned Brady defends the Suncoast Southern title vs. Lou Perez. Penelope Paradise takes on the ref she DDT'd, Frankie Reyes. The Masked Superstar meets Rick Ryder. One note: SUNCOAST is now on WTTA/Ch. 38 in Tampa Saturdays at 5:30.

BIGGIE IN JERSEY: Dennis Corraluzzo has a Terry Funk-Bob Backlund main event Aug. 17 at Camden County College in Blackwood NJ. Also, a Larry Sharpe "retirement" match vs. Bob Orton Jr.; and a manager/wrestler tag bout, Stan Lane/Jim Cornette vs. Jerry Lawler/Dr. Mark Curtis (Brian C. Hildebrand).

MALENKO'S MAYHEM: Boris Malenko's UWF drew 100 Saturday night for a Tampa show with Brian Jernigan d. Sonny Key.

RODDY'S LOVE SHOTS: THE ORLANDO SENTINEL focused on Roddy Piper's movie pilot, LOVE FOR \$17.50. It's an art film, which Piper says is "something I can put my heart into." Of course, Roddy shows up Saturday in a LOVE BOAT movie repeat on CBS.

NEW SCHEDULE: The next LPWA taping is now set for Aug. 4 at the Cobb County Civic Center in Marietta GA. This will be the first set of shows booked by Jim Cornette.

BULLY FOR YOU: Nick (Big Bully) Busich has been offered a dark match WWF tryout July 29. Vince told Nick not to do any more Global TV until the audition but Busich said no to that.

ANOTHER CASUALTY: Shawn Simpson missed the GWF light heavy tourney because of a serious illness. Pedicino had hoped to book a brother vs. brother in the round-robin finals.

NEXT UP FOR UIW: The Baltimore guys tape July 27 at Teamsters Hall with Kirk Dredd vs. A.J. Fritzoid, Dixie Devastation vs. Cream Team in a "country whipping match" and King Kahlua vs. Golden Phoenix.

MONDAY IN MEMPHIS: Jerry Lawler met Leatherface (Brian Lee). Also, the Barroom Brawlers put up the USWA tag belts vs. Jeff Jarrett/Robert Fuller (who lost the titles on a DQ

(Continued on Page 8)

MATWATCH

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RATINGS

RAP

Two Strong Weeks

PRIME TIME KEEPS RATINGS CROWN

Two consecutive weeks of hyping the Randy Savage-Liz Poffo "wedding" at SUMMER SLAM have kept WWF PRIME TIME WRESTLING at the top of the weekly Nielsen cable ratings for four weeks.

PRIME TIME soared to a 3.3 rating and 5.6 per cent share of audience for its July 1 outing to start the third quarter hot. Its July 8 episode, featuring a "kidnaping" of Sean Mooney by "Slaughter's Marauders" posted a 3.0/5.3 to keep the top spot.

ALL-AMERICAN WRESTLING retained the runner-up slot both weeks, with a strong 2.7/9.0 June 30 and a 2.5/8.1 July 7.

WCW's shows continued to lag behind. The Sunday MAIN EVENT show was pre-empted July 7 but posted a respectable 2.6/6.3 to nail down the third-place spot June 30.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING, though down from last year, is scoring strong shares but ratings languish. The June 29 edition only registered a 2.4 rating with Saturday viewing down across the U.S. but scored a 6.6% share. July 6, with Independence weekend numbers lower, WCW was down to a 2.2/6.1.

POWER HOUR continued well back in the pack with a 1.4/6.6 July 6 and a 1.6/7.6 June 29.

(ED. NOTE: We hope to have weekly tallies on the ESPN GLOBAL shows within two weeks.)

CABLE

Week Ending July 8	Rating/Share	Homes	Year Ago
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 7/8)	3.0/5.3	1.7 million	2.8/4.9
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 7/7)	2.5/8.1	1.42 million	2.6/8.5
WCW WORLD CHAMP. (TBS 7/6)	2.2/6.1	1.25 million	2.3/6.2
WCW POWER HOUR (TBS 7/6)	1.4/6.6	804,000	2.1/4.1

Week Ending July 1	Rating/Share	Homes	Year Ago
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 7/1)	3.3/5.6	1.87 million	3.2/5.4
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 6/30)	2.7/9.0	1.53 million	2.5/8.0
WCW MAIN EVENT (TBS 6/30)	2.6/6.3	1.49 million	2.7/6.3
WCW WORLD CHAMP. (TBS 6/29)	2.4/6.6	1.37 million	2.8/7.6
WCW POWER HOUR (TBS 6/29)	1.6/7.6	917,000	1.9/3.8

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VIDIOTS

(From Page 6)

BLOOPER AWARDS - 1. Johnson, GLOBAL-ESPN: "We'll see that next WEEK...uh, on our next show." 2. McMahon, WWF-SU: "Ed MORATTI." 3. Ross, WCW, calling Keith Steinborn "Keith HART."

DICK VITALE AWARD - Johnson, UIW, on Steve Valentino calling time out: "Better get a T.O., ba-bee!"

DREADED GLITCH AWARDS - 1. GLOBAL-ESPN, for spelling Makham Singh "MUCHAN." 2. GLOBAL-MLW, for running fan's question about Norman's change before showing Norman's interview turn.

ANSWER OF THE YEAR - Ross, JRS, on caller asking if WCW wrestlers have gay lovers: "Well, I've never considered that. And if I ever did, I don't think I'd want to know the answer."

BOO AWARD - WCW, for not editing out the Ric Flair BRUISE CRUISE spots from POWER HOUR and for still plugging Scott Steiner on local narrations in San Francisco. Surely there was time to correct these.

ALL-CLICHE TEAM - 1. Hudson, GLOBAL: "Not to sound like a member of the ALL-CLICHE TEAM but these are main event matches anywhere in the country." 2. Gorilla Monsoon, PTW: "...run for the money." 3. Hudson, GLOBAL: "When they're lying on the mat, they're both the same height." 4. Pedicino, GLOBAL-MLW: "...good for the goose is good for the gander."

MATWATCHING

(From Page 7)

July 8) in a street fight; in a "mudhole" tag match, Tony & Kim Anthony vs. Tom Prichard/Miss TX (Danny Davis ref). Openers: Bill

Dundee vs. Judge Dread and Rob Zakowski vs. Sabu.

TITAN IN TAMPA: Saturday night, WWF drew 5,500 with Hogan over Slaughter in the "Desert Storm" match. Jim Duggan and Typhoon no-showed and refunds were offered at the top.

LIGHTNING STRIKES: The Lightning Kid (Sean Waltham) won the Global light heavyweight tourney on his 19th birthday Saturday. Crowd about 900 each night. Waltham beat Jerry Lynn and Steve Simpson in the round-robin finals.

GOODBYE, BUDDY: Sad to say, folks but Buddy Landell has bitten the dust again. He took a ticket to Dallas for the GWF syndie tapings Friday but didn't show. Saturday, he said he'd had a "medical problem," but Landell was fired.

BASH POLL: The emotion was strong. We had 116 calls Sunday night with an 84% negative rating on the BASH. 12% rated it good and 4% so-so or no opinion. On THE LARRY KATZ SHOW Sunday night, callers were 4-to-1 thumbs down.

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